

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original) An apparatus for storing predetermined multimedia information, comprising:

at least a first telephony platform; and

a first storage location coupled to said at least said first telephony platform, wherein said first storage location stores at least a part of said predetermined multimedia information.

2. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a second storage location coupled to said at least said first telephony platform,

wherein said at least said first telephony platform receives at least one multimedia command from an access device of a user,

wherein said first storage location and said second storage location store said at least said part of said predetermined multimedia information,

wherein a first multimedia portion of said predetermined multimedia information is stored in said first storage location and a second multimedia portion of said predetermined multimedia information is stored in said second storage location,

wherein said at least said first telephony platform selectively reproduces one of said first multimedia portion and said second multimedia portion as a selected multimedia portion based on said at least one multimedia command, and

wherein said at least said first telephony platform outputs said selected multimedia portion to said access device.

3. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said predetermined multimedia information comprises music information.

4. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said predetermined multimedia information comprises a first music track group, and

wherein said first multimedia portion contains a first music track of said first music track group and said second multimedia portion contains a second music track of said first music track group.

5. (currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein said first storage location comprises a first mailbox and said second storage location comprises a second mailbox[[]],

wherein said at least one multimedia command comprises a plurality of menu navigation inputs,

wherein said at least said first telephony platform generates at least one menu containing musical criteria options relating to music tracks,

wherein said menu navigation inputs correspond to responses to said musical criteria options, and

wherein said at least said first telephony platform determines that said user desires to access said first music track stored in said first mailbox based on said menu navigation inputs.

6. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein said menu navigation inputs comprise at least one input from the group of artist name of said first music track, album name containing said first music track, and type of music of said first music track.

7. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein said first music track group corresponds to an album, and


wherein said first music track and said second music track correspond to music tracks on said album.

8. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said at least one multimedia command comprises a purchasing command, and

wherein said user can purchase said selected multimedia portion by inputting said purchasing command.

9. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein said purchasing command instructs said at least said first telephony platform to have a copy of at least said selected multimedia portion mailed to a postal address of said user.

10. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein said purchasing command instructs said at least said first telephony platform to have a copy of at least said selected multimedia portion downloaded to a computer network address of said user.

 11. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein said at least one multimedia command comprises a purchasing command, and
wherein said user can purchase said album by inputting said purchasing command.

12. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein said purchasing command instructs said at least said first telephony platform to have a copy of said album mailed to a postal address of said user.

13. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein said purchasing command instructs said at least said first telephony platform to have a copy of said album downloaded to a computer network address of said user.

14. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein said at least one multimedia command comprises a save command,

wherein said first music track corresponds to said selected multimedia portion,

wherein, after selecting said first music track, said user saves first data corresponding to said first music track in a user memory portion coupled to said at least said first telephony platform by inputting said save command, and

wherein said user memory portion is assigned to said user.

15. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein said first data is music data of said first music track.

16. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein said first data is pointer data that identifies said first storage location containing said first music track.

17. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein said predetermined multimedia information comprises an additional music track,

wherein said user saves additional data corresponding to said additional music track in said user memory portion after selecting said additional music track by inputting an additional save command via said access device, and

wherein said first music track and said additional music track correspond to at least some saved tracks.

18. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein said at least one multimedia command comprises a purchasing command, and

wherein said user can purchase a customized album containing said saved tracks by inputting said purchasing command.

19. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein said purchasing command instructs said at least said first telephony platform to have a copy of said customized album mailed to a postal address of said user or downloaded to a computer network address of said user.

20. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein said at least one multimedia command comprises a radio playback command, and

wherein said at least said first telephony platform sequentially outputs said saved tracks to said access device in response to said radio playback command.

21. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said at least one multimedia command comprises a forwarding command, and

wherein said at least said first telephony platform forwards said selected multimedia portion to a second access device of a second user in response to said forwarding command.

22. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 21, wherein said second user is part of a distribution list of a plurality of recipient users, and

wherein said distribution list has been created by said user and stored in said at least said first telephony platform prior to inputting said forwarding command.

23. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said at least one multimedia command comprises a forwarding command, and

wherein said at least said first telephony platform forwards said selected multimedia portion to a storage location corresponding to a second access device of a second user in response to said forwarding command.

24. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein said second user is part of a distribution list of a plurality of recipient users, and

wherein said distribution list has been created by said user and stored in said at least said first telephony platform prior to inputting said forwarding command.

25. (currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said at least ~~on~~
one multimedia command comprises an information command, and
wherein said at least said first telephony platform outputs an information message to said
access device containing additional information relating to said selected multimedia portion.

26. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said at least one multimedia
access command comprises a multiple user session command, and
wherein said at least said first telephony platform connects said access device of said user
with access devices of other users who are interested in topics relating to said selected
multimedia portion so that said user and said other users can communicate in a multiple user
session.

27. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 26, wherein said multiple user session
corresponds to a telephone party line.


28. (original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 26, wherein said multiple user session
corresponds to a chat room.

29. (withdrawn) A method for storing predetermined multimedia information,
comprising:

- (a) providing at least a first telephony platform and a first storage location coupled to said at least said first telephony platform; and
- (b) storing at least a part of said predetermined multimedia information in said first storage location coupled to said at least said first telephony platform.

30. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 29, further comprising:

- (c) providing a second storage location coupled to said at least said first telephony platform,

 wherein a first multimedia portion of said predetermined multimedia information is stored in said first storage location and a second multimedia portion of said predetermined multimedia information is stored in said second storage location, and

wherein said method further comprises:

- (d) receiving at least one multimedia command from an access device of a user via said at least said first telephony platform;
- (e) selectively reproducing one of said first multimedia portion and said second multimedia portion as a selected multimedia portion based on said at least one multimedia command; and
- (f) outputting said selected multimedia portion to said access device from said at least said first telephony platform.

31. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 30, wherein said predetermined multimedia information comprises music information.

32. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 31, wherein said predetermined multimedia information comprises a first music track group, and

wherein said first multimedia portion contains a first music track of said first music track group and said second multimedia portion contains a second music track of said first music track group.

33. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein said first storage location comprises a first mailbox and said second storage location comprises a second mailbox,

wherein said at least one multimedia command comprises a plurality of menu navigation inputs, and

wherein said operation (e) comprises:

(e1) generating at least one menu via said at least said first telephony platform containing musical criteria options relating to music tracks, wherein said menu navigation inputs correspond to responses to said musical criteria options; and

(e2) determining, via said at least said first telephony platform, that said user desires to access said first music track stored in said first mailbox based on said menu navigation inputs.

34. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 33, wherein said menu navigation inputs comprise at least one input from the group of artist name of said first music track, album name containing said first music track, and type of music of said first music track.

35. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein said first music track group corresponds to an album, and

wherein said first music track and said second music track correspond to music tracks on said album.

36. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 30, wherein said at least one multimedia command comprises a purchasing command, and

wherein said method further comprises:

(g) inputting said purchasing command via said access device to purchase said selected multimedia portion.

37. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 36, wherein said purchasing command instructs said at least said first telephony platform to have a copy of at least said selected multimedia portion mailed to a postal address of said user.

38. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 36, wherein said purchasing command instructs said at least said first telephony platform to have a copy of at least said selected multimedia portion downloaded to a computer network address of said user.

39. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 35, wherein said at least one multimedia command comprises a purchasing command, and

wherein said method further comprises:

a (g) inputting said purchasing command via said access device to purchase said said album.

40. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 39, wherein said purchasing command instructs said at least said first telephony platform to have a copy of said album mailed to a postal address of said user.

41. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 39, wherein said purchasing command instructs said at least said first telephony platform to have a copy of said album downloaded to a computer network address of said user.

42. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein said at least one multimedia command comprises a save command,

wherein said first music track corresponds to said selected multimedia portion, and

wherein said method further comprises:

(g) after selecting said first music track, saving first data corresponding to said first music track in a user memory portion coupled to said at least said first telephony platform by inputting said save command, wherein said user memory portion is assigned to said user.

43. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 42, wherein said first data is music data of said first music track.

44. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 42, wherein said first data is pointer data that identifies said first storage location containing said first music track.

45. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 42, wherein said predetermined multimedia information comprises an additional music track,

wherein said method further comprises:

(h) saving additional data corresponding to said additional music track in said user memory portion after selecting said additional music track by inputting an additional save command via said access device,

wherein said first music track and said additional music track correspond to at least some saved tracks.

46. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 45, wherein said at least one multimedia command comprises a purchasing command, and

wherein said method further comprises:

(i) purchasing a customized album containing said saved tracks by inputting said purchasing command.

47. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 46, wherein said purchasing command instructs said at least said first telephony platform to have a copy of said customized album mailed to a postal address of said user or downloaded to a computer network address of said user.

48. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 45, wherein said at least one multimedia command comprises a radio playback command, and

wherein said method further comprises:

(i) sequentially outputting said saved tracks to said access device in response to said radio playback command.

49. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 30, wherein said at least one multimedia command comprises a forwarding command, and

wherein said method comprises:

(g) forwarding said selected multimedia portion to a second access device of a second user in response to said forwarding command.

50. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 49, wherein said second user is part of a distribution list of a plurality of recipient users, and

wherein said distribution list has been created by said user and stored in said at least said telephony platform prior to inputting said forwarding command.

Al 51. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 30, wherein said at least one multimedia command comprises a forwarding command, and

wherein said method further comprises:

(g) forwarding said selected multimedia portion to a storage location corresponding to a second access device of a second user in response to said forwarding command.

52. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 51, wherein said second user is part of a distribution list of a plurality of recipient users, and

wherein said distribution list has been created by said user and stored in said at least said first telephony platform prior to inputting said forwarding command.

53. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 30, wherein said at least on multimedia command comprises an information command, and

wherein said method further comprises:

(g) outputting an information message to said access device containing additional information relating to said selected multimedia portion.

54. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 30, wherein said at least one multimedia access command comprises a multiple user session command, and

wherein said method further comprises:

(g) connecting said access device of said user with access devices of other users who are interested in topics relating to said selected multimedia portion so that said user and said other users can communicate in a multiple user session.

55. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 54, wherein said multiple user session corresponds to a telephone party line.

56. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 54, wherein said multiple user session corresponds to a chat room.

57. (new) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first telephony platform includes:

means for managing;

means for storing messages;

means for converting a telephone signal into a message suitable for the telephony platform; and

means for generating control signals for the telephony platform.

58. (new) The apparatus as claimed in claim 58, further including a high-speed backbone that interconnects the means for managing, the means for storing messages, the means for converting and the means for generating control signals.
